

**Mafraq Monthly Coordination Meeting – Minutes
15.12.2016**

Agenda

Security update
 INTERSOS presentation on child labour
 Outcomes of the Participatory Assessment
 ISWG/link with sectors
 Winterization update
 Common information leaflet for humanitarian partners
 Brief updates and announcements (16 Days, Berm, Makani, etc.)
 AOB

Security update

The situation in Mafraq and in Irbid remains stable, no major incidents have taken place since the last update.

- Governorate of Ramtha: 2 shells landed in the north, there were no casualties (2nd of November)
- Guard forces arrested three on the border (5th of November)
- Hashemite University students began a protest following the suspension of student (8th of November)
- 3 fire incidents occurred in Zaatari camp because of a gas leak

Staff are advised to keep a source of lighting, gas, food and water reserves on hand because of the winter storm and in case of power outages. Winds can reach high speeds expecting to cause sand storms and heavy rain can cause flooding.

Ahmed - UNHCR
 SECURITY

INTEROSOS presentation on child labour in ITS

Objectives:

- Providing accurate evidence of existence of child labor in 13 ITS in Irbid Governorate
- Shed light on the forms of child labour
- Advocate for humanitarian practices tackling child labour.

Methodology:

- Desk activities and ad hoc meetings with relevant agencies, structured PSS activities, FGD with youth and adults, structured observations of the working fields

Monica + George
 (INTEROSOS)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interviews with community members and leaders, field workers and shaweesh. • Reached 190 children, FGD reached 76 adults and 20 youth <p><u>Findings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children are selected based on body size, regardless of age. • Whoever is able to work is recruited by the shaweesh, who is in charge of facilitating the job opportunities process. • Agricultural work is often seen as a form of payment to the owner of the land on which the family resides. • Children working together with families, and even very small children are brought along to the field with the mothers. • The study is not representative of Jordan as a whole, only ITS's in Irbid Governorate. • Working hours are up to 13 hours: main duties include picking fruits and vegetables, packing and loading onto trucks. Considered very harmful practices because it can compromise the physical development of the child. • Children and adolescents are paid between 0.5-1JD per hour, but more common is for families to be paid together 4-6 JD per hour • 72% had signs/marks on their body showing signs of work • Level of hygiene is medium (64%) and low (36%) • Children can rest/eat for an average of 10-30 minutes per day. No access to WASH facilities, no compensation for extra hours, high levels of fatigue <p><u>Main reasons cited for working:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of income, fathers not working for fear of legal consequences • Issues of legality, mobile settings • Shaweesh: relationship with shawessh: bad 62%, good 38%. Children are not paid, but told not to complain with the shaweesh. Children reported verbal abuse <p><u>Recommendations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore other possibilities of income generation in ITS • Design specific action to respond to child labour in ITS • Further investigate working conditions • Sensitize donors to the issue of child labour (develop a national strategy) <p><u>Other comments:</u></p> <p>Health sector is not covered in ITS. Mafraq ITS share the same challenges as Irbid ITS regarding child labour. One of the health challenges is access, it is difficult to refer health cases to other NGOs or clinics, either NGOs cannot access the site, or ITS cannot access clinic. Nutrition strategy also should be improved.</p> <p>Lack of documentation is a main issue in Irbid: birth, death and marriage certificates, a high percentage of ITS in Irbid do not have documentation from UNHCR because the sites are quite remote. (In Mafraq it is the opposite, the level of UNHCR documentation is close to 100%)</p> <p>Shaweesh are taking a percentage of the earnings from the children and adults to re-hire them, and also taking a percentage from the landlord.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Winterization and Harsh Weather</u></p> <p>Harsh Weather Task Force is a sub-task force of winterization:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six partners on Harsh Weather Task Force: UNHCR, NRC, INTERSOS, ACTED, WFP, 	<p>Khilal (UNHCR)</p>

<p>CARE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using VAF/RAIS to identify vulnerability: moderately, vulnerable, highly and extremely (scores 1-4) • 157,000 refugees have been recording on VAF, based on what they have received in shelter: 21% are determined highly vulnerable and extremely vulnerable. • 2,000 individual beneficiaries in Mafraq ITS • 16,000 in ITS across the country <p>Necessary to have a succinct message of reporting in each area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedures: Teams according to the geographic location, and what kind of assistance they provide. • Reporting: type of relief provided (blankets, shelter) and geographical area. • 40 of the community leaders (shaweesh) provide reports to be verified by the focal points of each organization/geographic location • Key point will be to locate the target beneficiaries and who really needs assistance, then coordination on how to proceed with assistance. <p><u>Referral form for harsh weather conditions:</u></p> <p>Date:</p> <p>From: (who is reporting) To: harsh weather sub-task force members</p> <p>Copy: winterization task force chairs</p> <p>Alarm level:</p> <p>Subject: specific information on what is needed</p> <p>Location: governorate and more specific location</p> <p>The form is to be filled out by all focal points everywhere in the country: there is a focal point in each geographical area</p> <p>UNHCR has updated the leaflets that were prepared last year for dos/don'ts during the winter to distribute to beneficiaries. As soon as the leaflet is printed partners will be contacted. Most relevant to ITS winterization, but wide distribution is still encouraged. Should be ready by the end of next week, partners will be contacted for distribution by the last week of December.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Outcomes of the Participatory Assessment</u></p> <p><u>Main findings in three areas:</u></p> <p>1) Livelihood</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those who hold work permits feel their well-being and PSS levels are much better, more engaged with their community. However, obtaining work permits is complex/difficult • Scarcity of employment opportunities, which leads to working illegally, exploitation, and child labour. Many jobs sectors are still not open to refugees, so areas where they can work are limited. Anxiety as a result of working illegally, as well as exploitation (long hours and poor conditions). • Refugees report having to work much longer and harder hours than what they are used to in Syria, and especially for women the level of responsibility placed on them is much higher than what they are used to. <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocational trainings • Support for ways for women to engage (transportation, child care facilities) • Support for higher education • Possibility of having land that is leased to refugees for farming • Increase cash assistance. 400-500 JDs per month is what is required for refugees to be able to 	<p>Irene (UNHCR)</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> pay rent, but what is given is much less. Facilitation of documentation, which would ease the process of obtaining work permits. <p>2) Vulnerability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of financial support, accommodation is very costly and the biggest burden for refugees, healthcare in terms of costs and inflated prices, gaps in education <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family support system for persons with disability, elderly and widows. Focus on looking into raising monthly support based on VAF Look further into how distributions are being done, and look into families that have relatives outside of the country and are receiving support from them. <p>3) Protection: lack of legal documents, lack of access to basic services, early marriage consent is especially high for Syrians.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involvement of authorities to facilitate the issuance of missing documentation Awareness raising on issue of early marriage Harmonization and social cohesion between refugees and host communities Children request more extra-curricular activities and entertainment, also linked to education Provision of transportation to school Increase of information about humanitarian agencies and their services (via SMS) Addressing the gap of the humanitarian response for non-Syrians. <p>Non-Syrians: Iraqi, Sudanese and Somali refugees: Those surveyed reported that there is a high percentage of support focused on Syrians. Looking to receive agricultural, business related training. Looking into support for education. Non-Syrians having access to public schools.</p> <p>What is the main objective of the assessments/next steps? The assessment helps guide operation for next year's strategy, will be adapting into the programming of different agencies.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Common information leaflet for humanitarian partners</u></p> <p>It was suggested to have a unified booklet for Mafraq including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Main activities for each organization Organization name and logo, phone number Address If there is any walk-in center, location and open hours 12 line brief about the organization in general in terms of services, open days, work hours, etc. <p>Possible additions: Further communication with refugees about how they would like to receive information about services. FGD will be held with refugees about how they would like to receive information.</p> <p>UNHCR will re-share the document with partner organizations, and open it up to receive information from organizations,</p>	<p>Omar (UNHCR)</p>

AOB

- RAIS winterization module: 2 hour training on Monday 19 Dec.
- Share widely call for applicants for scholarships for refugees.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 16th of January at 11:00 am.